

REMARKS

This is intended as a supplement to the Response to Final Office Action dated September 6, 2006, which was filed on November 6, 2006. Applicant submits this response to place the application in condition for allowance or in better form for appeal. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

Claims 1-22 are pending in the application. Claims 1-19 remain pending following entry of this response. Claims 20-22 have been canceled.

Interview Summary

On November 28, 2006, a telephonic interview was held between Randol W. Read, attorney of record, and Examiner Craig E. Walter. The parties discussed proposed amendments to the claims, which are reflected in this response, and agreed that the proposed amendments would overcome the cited references.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the claims be allowed. Failing the allowance of the claims, Applicant believes that he has established valid grounds for appeal.

If the Examiner believes any issues remain that prevent this application from going to issue, the Examiner is strongly encouraged to contact Randol W. Read at (713) 623-4844, to discuss strategies for moving prosecution forward toward allowance or, if necessary, towards appeal proceedings.

Respectfully submitted, and
S-Signed Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.4,

/Randol W. Read, Reg. No. 43876/
Randol W. Read
Registration No. 43,876
PATTERSON & SHERIDAN, L.L.P.
3040 Post Oak Blvd. Suite 1500
Houston, TX 77056
Telephone: (713) 623-4844
Facsimile: (713) 623-4846
Attorney for Applicant